

Dear Neighbors,

The Board would like to thank all the residents who attended the Woods HOA meeting last night. We had 33 households (and over 40 people) at the meeting which was one of the larger crowds over the last 20 years. It was a very productive meeting, with residents offering suggestions and debating on a variety of topics.

One thing the Board heard loud and clear is the need for better communication. You are encouraged to register at the Woods Web Site. One of the goals of the Board is to save money by trying to go as paperless as possible. Once you are registered, we can contact you via email instead of paying the printing, envelope and postage cost – and of course, we can get the message out more timely. Ultimately it would be nice to have a texting program, but we are not there yet.

For those of you who could not attend, here are a few of the highlights:

Dr. Cameron Ryba presented a quick state of the schools. They are looking for residents to be part of the next strategic planning group – so if you are interested, you can contact him through Strongnet.org.

Each of the Board Members updated their areas of responsibility:

The island entrance is being completed in phases – the board will post on the web site the plans for the next phase that should be completed next spring.

A few dead trees along Ellsworth will be replaced this fall.

A few trees around the clusters and the area on the southwest corner of playground will be addressed this fall.

Landscaping has been a challenge this year. Between hiring a new company and the crazy wet Spring, that lead to some longer grass at times and pushed mulching back a bit. Schonhut seems to now have it under control and is doing a much better job.

Schonhut along with the Board of the Woods and some members of Board of Woodside Crossing will be meeting and walking the grounds to address a number of concerns raised by those neighbors.

The baby swing along with the broken button at the playground will be replaced over the next week or so.

There were about 30 requests that required Architectural Review. Bryan wants to remind all residents that the C & R's on what is required can be found on the web site. There are hard and fast rules about the size of sheds, types of fences, pools, etc.... please refer to those and that will make the approval process faster.

There are quite a few neighborhood social events that have taken place and will be coming up. Watch the web site for information on them. The next event is the picnic – please RSVP by this weekend.

The Web Site is a work in progress. Mike, a Woods neighbor is a volunteer who set up and is managing the web site for us. The old site was very clunky and hard to work with. He is looking for suggestions to make it better. Just email his any suggestions that you have. (His email is on the web site). The Board plans on posting all meeting minutes, agenda, financial summaries, pictures from events, etc.... As a reminder – please go out and register on the site.

The current three Board Members that terms were up – all were elected for another two years.

There was a very healthy discussion about the plan for the playground and releasing capital funds for that purpose. A motion as made and the issue passed. A small committee was selected by the folks in attendance and will be lead by Heather Hicks. Watch the Web Site for the proposed new structure (s) to provide feedback. The goal is to have new playground equipment installed either this fall or next spring. The motion allows the Board to use up to \$35,000 of capital funds. The Board commits to replenish that money over the next few years.

The Board committed to working on an overall long term capital expenditure plan. We are looking for resident volunteers to help with this effort.

Again, we appreciate any and all feedback. We are all neighbors, with the same goal in mind – to keep the Woods of Strongsville the best neighborhood in northeast Ohio. I will get on my soapbox for a minute. If you have an issue, please reach out the Board. Posting destructive comments on Facebook may make you feel better, but really does nothing to help alert the board and solve your issue – instead it creates resentment amongst neighbors. A

bit of humor is always good, but mean comments are just that – mean!

Thanks again,

The Woods Board